Quality' Control and Implementation Cell/Division" like other Divisions at its Corporate Office, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI T^JHA SINGH): (a) and (b) ITDC has, various hotel units situated at different locations in the country. ITDC has a separate divi. sion at the Corporate level named as "Materials Management & Development Division" whose functions include execution of centralised contracts, exercising controls, procurement of items for units/divisions of the Corporation.

While in ITDC central contracts are finalised by the MM&D Division for purchase of crockery, cutlery, carpets linen and some of the food items for hotel units, it has decentralised its powers to the units/divisions for procurement of other items like plant and machinery, furniture & fixtures etc. Necessary inventory control, inspection/duality control and supervision is exercised at vari. ous stages of procurement by the concerned authorities/user divisions. Information regarding purchases over Rs. 10,000 are not centrally compiled.

(c) ITDC will be requested to consider this suggestion.

Constitution of Expert Committees

213. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(b) the number of Export Committees consisting of members from various disciplines, constituted for approving contracts involving bulk purchases during 7th plan period;

(c) whether some arrangements were made for ensuring inspection and quality control of the bulk purchases of different items over and above Rs. 10,000 annually during the said period in each unit/project of ITDC, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) in what manner and by whom the inventories maintained of the various items in different units of ITDC, have been monitored at the Corporate Level in the absence of a full-fledged coordinating 'Inventory Cell' there?

i THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI USHA SINGH); (a) to (c) Committees have been constituted from time to time by ITDC for award of contracts for works, purchase of specific items like carpets etc. as also for finalising at corporate Level rate contract/purchases for hotel operation items like tinned food, mineral water, candles, face tissues, solid fuel, ice-cream etc. The Committees both at the Corporate/Unit level include senior level executives belonging to various disciplines like finance, hotels, projects engineering, commercial, material management & development etc.

Necessary inspection/quality control is exercised at various stages of procurement of items by the concerned authorities at different levels.

The respective units of ITJC discharge the necessary functions of inventory control. The Material Managements Development Division at *Lie* Corporate Level renders necessary assistance in disposing of surplus items by way of inter unit transfers sales of the materials.

Awarding of **ITDC properties for construction and renovation**

214. SHRI GURUDAs DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in ITDC a few selected construction Companies, Architectural, Decoration and Design ing Firms and Suppliers have been floated and patronised by way of awarding them the related work-as signment without having Open/Global Tenders for construction and renova tion of ITDC properties during 6th plan period and onwards;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above ' be in negative the names and addres-

ses of the parties, firms/companies/ suppliers/individual$_s$ alongwith the amount and type of work/supply awarded for each unit/division of ITDC by its Corporate Engineering Division during the said period annually; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the above-stated firms/individuals were awarded the particular type of work/ supply based on fake and or limited tenders, if not, the factual position in each case with reasons and justification thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI USHA SINGH); (a) to (c) The works relating to planning, designing and construction of hotels and renovation thereof are specialised and complicated in nature. Accordingly, the specialists like Architects, Interior Designers and Interior Decorators etc. are empanelled through open advertisement and with the approval of the Board of Directors. The works are awarded to the empanelled parties by inviting tenders from these enlisted parties. Depending upon the location, magnitude and nature of works, both systems of tendering are being followed namely, open tenders through wide press publicity, and limited tenders, through approved panels.

A comprehensive list giving names and addresses of parties, firms/companies/suppliers/individuals alongwith the amount and type of work/supplv awarded for each unit/division of ITDC is enclosed in Annexure. [see Appendix CL.VI, Annexure No. 6]

The works were awarded in the Corporation by following the procedures indicated above.

Development of various tourist spots in tourism year 1991

215. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the year 1991 would be observed as Tourism Year;

(b) if go, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have cho sen to project the tourist and religious places in Bihar such as Bodhgaya, Jain Temples, Patna Sahib, Nalanda, Raj gir etc. to attract the tourists on. flow in3 the State;

(a) if so, whether Government have any plan to decorate, illuminate these places and distribute pamphlets on them at national and international level to attract the internal and foreign tourisis; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the special tr&nsport arrangements for tourists made bv Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI USHA SINGH); (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Besides traditional tourist circuits, new extension circuits have been identified for promotion. 46 fairs and festivals are being promoted all over the country.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) General brochures for distribution amongst the domestic and foreign tourists have been brought out including a map of the region. Pre sently, there are no plans to decorate and illuminate these places. As re gards special transport arrangements for tourist, it is the responsibility of the State Government.

Steps taken to develop and boost rural tourism in the country

216. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(d) whether Government have taken steps to develop and boost rural tourism in India; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI USHA SINGH); (a) and (b) In order to develop and boost rural tourism in the country, the Mi- nistrv of Tourism extends financial assistance to State Governments for organising rural craft melas and rural